



Global Warming Adaptation Guidebook

Background

King County approached the Climate Impacts Group (CIG) about developing an adaptation guidebook in early 2006. The CIG was very interested in the opportunity to work on the project, as part of their longtime commitment to advising public policy. ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability agreed to publish and distribute the guidebook as a component of its Climate Safe Communities campaign and training program, funded by NOAA. ICLEI will also contribute to the book.

Purpose

The purpose of the guidebook is to lay out an approach that regional and local governments can use for adapting to global warming impacts. The intent is to take the mystery out of planning for global warming by answering the question "How do I plan for global warming?" The guidebook includes an overview of global and regional (U.S.) global warming and impacts, and discusses why planning for global warming requires acting locally.

The main focus of the document is on how to plan for global warming. The guidebook includes guidance and resources on:

- raising and maintaining interest in preparing for global warming;
- creating a global warming adaptation team;
- identifying and reviewing available scientific information on global warming impacts;
- identifying community vulnerabilities to global warming; and
- identifying, selecting, and implementing adaptation options.

The primary audience for the guidebook is regional and local government leaders and staff throughout the U.S. Federal and state resource managers, non-profit leaders, and the general public will also find the guidebook useful. The project has already generated an appreciable amount of interest that will only continue to build as we get closer to the release date.